ATTY DOCKET NO. 251076US-2DIV INVENTOR: YUUICHI HIRANO, ET AL. PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 3-13 are presently active in this case, with Claims 1 and 2 cancelled by the present preliminary amendment.

Claims 3-13 correspond to claims previously non-elected in response to the Election of Species requirement issued on July 3, 2003 in parent application Serial No. 10/201,921.

Accordingly, examination on the merits of Claims 3-13 is believed to be in order, and an early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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(OSMMN 08/03)

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